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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION C**COMMISSIONERS**

BOB STUMP - Chairman
GARY PIERCE
BRENDA BURNS
BOB BURNS
SUSAN BITTER SMITH

2014 AUG 19 P 2:41

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROLArizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

AUG 19 2014

DOCKETED BY

DOCKET NO. W-02077A-12-0493

ORIGINAL**PROCEDURAL ORDER**
(Scheduling a Procedural Conference)

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
HOPEVILLE WATER COMPANY, INC. D/B/A
ALLENVILLE WATER COMPANY FOR
APPROVAL TO SELL ITS WATER SYSTEM
ASSETS TO THE TOWN OF BUCKEYE AND
TO CANCEL ITS CERTIFICATE OF
CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY.

BY THE COMMISSION:

On December 17, 2012, Hopeville Water Company dba Allenville Water Company ("Hopeville" or "Company") filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") an application for approval of the sale and transfer of its water system assets to the Town of Buckeye ("Town") and to cancel Hopeville's Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") to provide water utility services in the Town of Hopeville.

On January 7, 2013, the Commission's Utilities Division ("Staff") filed a Sufficiency Letter in this docket stating that Hopeville's application had met the sufficiency requirements as outlined in the Arizona Administrative Code ("A.A.C.").

On February 11, 2013, by Procedural Order, the matter was set for hearing to begin on April 16, 2013, and intervention was granted to: Alvin Cobbin; Holly Brown; Sharon K. Caldwell; LaFurn Garland; La Toya Cooper; Maria Estrada; Martha Castro; Georgia L. Land; Albert Williams; Izola Brown; Elanore Guy; Ruby Cooper; Olivia Piper; Jim Brown; Wilbur Brown; Anola Hubbert; Erica Gonzales; Arie Gonzales; Cynthia Bell; Angela Gonzales; Francisco Gonzales; Sergio Munoz; Jennifer Van Acker; and Ellen Berry.

On February 13, 2013, a Motion to Intervene was filed by The Concerned Citizens Group of Hopeville, AZ ("Concerned Citizens") and signed by James Brown, Jr., as representative ("February 13, 2013 Motion").

1 On February 21, 2013, by Procedural Order, a procedural conference was scheduled to
2 discuss who Concerned Citizens intended to represent and whether Concerned Citizens met the
3 requirements set forth in Arizona Supreme Court Rule 31.

4 On March 5, 2013, a procedural conference was held as scheduled. Staff and the Company
5 appeared through counsel. Mr. James Brown, Jr. appeared as a representative of Concerned Citizens.
6 During the procedural conference, Mr. Brown stated that Concerned Citizens is neither a legal entity,
7 nor registered as non-profit organization, but that Concerned Citizens is comprised of customers of
8 the Company who are concerned about the sale of assets to the Town. Mr. Brown was informed that
9 ten of the individuals who signed the February 13, 2013, Motion had been previously granted
10 intervention in this matter.

11 On March 8, 2013, the Staff Report was filed in this matter and Staff recommended approval
12 of the application with conditions.

13 On March 21, 2013, Matilda Lee White filed a Motion to Intervene, stating she is a property
14 owner in Hopeville and a customer of the water company.

15 On March 22, 2013, Hopeville filed an Affidavit of Publication and Mailing, stating that
16 notice of the application and hearing date had been mailed via First Class U.S. Mail to customers of
17 Hopeville and that notice had been published in the *Buckeye Valley News*, a weekly newspaper of
18 general circulation in Buckeye, Arizona, on March 7, 2013.

19 On April 9, 2013, intervention was granted to: Robert Land; Carolyn Land; Frederic Orozco;
20 Cristina Orozco; Oliver Caldwell; Brice Caldwell; Larry Bell; and Matilda Lee White.

21 On April 9, 2013, Mr. Alvin Cobbin, intervenor, filed a Motion to Postpone the April 16,
22 2013, hearing.

23 On April 15, 2013, Hopeville filed its response to the Motion to Postpone Hearing.

24 On April 16, 2013, a full public hearing was convened as scheduled before a duly authorized
25 Administrative Law Judge of the Commission. Hopeville and Staff appeared through counsel. Mr.
26 Alvin Cobbin, intervenor, appeared on his own behalf as well as other intervenors. During the
27 hearing, Mr. Cobbin's Motion to Postpone the hearing was discussed. Mr. Cobbin informed the
28 Commission that the Concerned Citizens had filed a lawsuit against Hopeville in Maricopa County

1 Superior Court and that a hearing was scheduled to be held in Superior Court on April 29, 2013.
2 After hearing arguments from Hopeville, intervenors, and Staff, the motion to postpone the hearing
3 was granted and public comment was taken. At the conclusion of the public comment hearing,
4 Hopeville was instructed to file, within 45 days of the hearing, a notice updating the Commission on
5 the lawsuit filed by the Concerned Citizens of Hopeville against Hopeville Water Company in
6 Superior Court.

7 On May 9, 2013, Hopeville docketed a Notice of Filing, stating that a hearing was held on
8 April 29, 2013, in the Superior Court lawsuit; that Mr. Cobbin was granted leave to amend his
9 Complaint; and that a follow up hearing was scheduled for June 18, 2013.

10 On July 16, 2013, by Procedural Order, a procedural conference was scheduled to be held on
11 August 8, 2013, to discuss the status of the Superior Court case as well as to establish a procedural
12 schedule for this matter.

13 On August 6, 2013, Gerado Ivan Hannel entered an appearance for Concerned Citizens in this
14 matter and a filed Motion to Continue Procedural Conference due to a scheduling conflict.

15 On August 8, 2013, the procedural conference was held as scheduled. The Town, the
16 Company, and Staff appeared through counsel. During the procedural conference the Concerned
17 Citizens' motion to stay the proceeding was granted. Further, the time clock was suspended.

18 On August 14, 2014, Hopeville docketed a Notice of Filing: Request for Expedited Hearing
19 stating that on July 14, 2014, the Superior Court dismissed the case between Hopeville and the
20 Concerned Citizens, as the parties have reached a settlement.

21 **IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that a procedural conference in the above-captioned**
22 **matter shall be held on August 27, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as is practicable, at**
23 **the Commission's offices, Hearing Room No. 1, 1200 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona**
24 **85007, to establish a procedural schedule for this matter.**

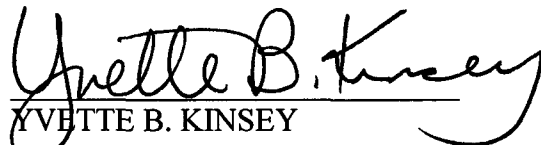
25 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the Ex Parte Rule (A.A.C. R14-3-113-Unauthorized
26 Communications) continues to apply to this proceeding and shall remain in effect until the
27 Commission's Decision in this matter is final and non-appealable.

28 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that the timeclock in this matter remains suspended.

1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all parties must comply with Arizona Supreme Court
2 Rules 31 and 38 and A.R.S. §40-243 with respect to the practice of law and admission *pro hac*
3 *vice*.

4 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Presiding Officer may rescind, alter, amend, or waive
5 any portion of this Procedural Order either by subsequent Procedural Order or by ruling at hearing.

6 DATED this 19th day of August, 2014.

7
8 
9 YVETTE B. KINSEY
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

10
11
12 Copies of the foregoing mailed
this 19th day of August, 2014 to:

13 Abraham Harris III
14 HOPEVILLE WATER COMPANY
1415 South Palo Verde Road
15 Phoenix, AZ 85326

Alvin Cobbin
7418 West Wood Street
Phoenix, AZ 85043

16 William Lally
16 TIFFANY & BOSCO, PA
Third Floor Camelback Esplanade II
17 2525 E. Camelback Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85016
18 Attorneys for Hopeville Water Company

Holly Brown
9519 West Miami
Tolleson, AZ 85353

Sharon Kay Caldwell
28928 West Pima Street
Buckeye, AZ 85326

19 Stephen Cleveland, Town Manager
20 TOWN OF BUCKEYE
530 Monroe Avenue
Buckeye, AZ 85326

LaFurn Garland
28912 West Cocopah Street
Buckeye, AZ 85326

21 Scott W. Ruby
22 Frank Tomkins
GUST ROSENFELD, PLC
23 One West Washington Street, Suite 1600
Phoenix, AZ 85004
24 Attorneys for Town of Buckeye

La Toya Cooper
29010 West Cocopah Street
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Maria Estrada
1202 South 290th Drive, No. 42
Buckeye, AZ 85326

25 Gerardo Ivan Hannel
26 GERARDO IVAN HANNEL, PLLC
2942 N. 24th St., Suite 114-721
Phoenix, AZ 85016
27 Attorneys for Concerned Citizens

Martha Castro
28921 West Pima Street
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Georgia L. Land
1203 South 290th Drive, #40
Buckeye, AZ 85326

1 Albert Williams
1215 South 290th Drive, #49
2 Buckeye, AZ 85326

3 Izola Brown
PO Box 1142
4 Buckeye, AZ 85326

5 Elanore Guy
28901 West Pima Street
6 Buckeye, AZ 85326

7 Ruby Cooper
29010 West Cocopah Street
8 Buckeye, AZ 85326

9 Olivia Piper
28917 W. Pima St.
10 Hopeville, AZ 85326

11 Jim Brown
2995 North Point Ridge Road
12 Buckeye, AZ 85369

13 Wilbur Brown
4410 North 99th Ave., #2163
14 Phoenix, AZ 85037

15 Anola Hubbert
15735 West Verde Lane
16 Goodyear, AZ 85395

17 Erica Gonzales
28922 West Cocopah Street
18 Buckeye, AZ 85326

19 Arie Gonzales
28922 West Cocopah Street
20 Buckeye, AZ 85326

21 Cynthia Bell
1202 South 289th Drive, #52
22 Buckeye, AZ 85326

23 Angela Gonzales
28913 West Pima Street
24 Buckeye, AZ 85326

25 Francisco J. Gonzales
28912 West Pima Street
26 Buckeye, AZ 85326

Sergio Munoz
28926 West Cocopah Street
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Jennifer Van Acker
28907 West Pima Street
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Ellen Berry
203 Jackson Avenue
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Robert and Carolyn Land
22807 W. Ashleigh Marie Dr.
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Federic and Cristina Orozco
28913 W. Cocopah
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Oliver and Brice Caldwell
28925 W. Pima
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Larry Bell
1202 S. 289 Dr., #32
Buckeye, AZ 85326

Matilda Lee White
4906 Fairgreen Lane
Houston, TX 77048

Janice Alward, Chief Counsel
Legal Division
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Steven M. Olea, Director
Utilities Division
ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION
1200 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

COASH & COASH, INC.
Court Reporting, Video and
Videoconferencing
1802 North 7th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85006

By: Rebecca Unquera
Rebecca Unquera
Assistant to Yvette B. Kinsey